

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner rejected claims 1 to 4, 27 and 28 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barber (USP 4,950,480) in view of Skea and over Barber USP 5,194,254) in view of Skea.

While not agreeing with the Examiner's position, claims 1 to 4 have been deleted and claim 27 has been amended to define the monoclonal antibody in the same manner as recited in claim 5, not the subject of this rejection.

The Examiner specifically withdrew the previous prior art rejections of claims 5 to 11. Having regard thereto, it is submitted that amended claims 27 and 28 are patentable over the applied art and hence the rejection of claims 27 and 28 with 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barber (USP 4,950,480) or Barber (5,194,254) in view of Skea, should be withdrawn.

The Examiner rejected claims 1 to 11, 27 and 28 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

In this regard, the Examiner indicated that the term "recombinant monoclonal antibody moiety" should be used instead of "monoclonal antibody moiety" for proper antecedent basis. This change has been adopted in claims 5, 6, 8 and 27.

Having regard thereto, it is submitted that claims 1 to 11, 27 and 28, insofar as they remain in the application and in their amended form, are no longer open to rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, and hence the rejection should be withdrawn.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **"Version with markings to show changes made."**

It is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance and early and favourable consideration and allowance are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Claims 1 to 4 have been cancelled.

Claims 5, 6, 8 and 27 have been amended as follows:

5. (Thrice Amended) A recombinant conjugate antibody molecule, consisting of a bivalent monoclonal antibody moiety having the entire heavy and light chains and specific for a surface structure of antigen presenting cells, said recombinant monoclonal antibody moiety being genetically modified to contain at least one antigen moiety located at the C-terminal end of both said heavy and light chains of said monoclonal antibody moiety, whereby said recombinant conjugate antibody molecule is capable of delivering said antigen moiety to the antigen presenting cells of a host and capable of eliciting an immune response to said antigen moiety in the host.
6. (Twice Amended) The recombinant conjugate antibody molecule of claim 5 wherein said at least one antigen moiety is directly linked to the C-terminal end of both said heavy and light chains of said recombinant monoclonal antibody moiety.
8. (Twice Amended) The recombinant conjugate antibody molecule of claim 6 wherein said recombinant monoclonal antibody moiety is genetically modified to a plurality of antigen moieties.
27. (Thrice Amended) An immunogenic composition, comprising, as an active component thereof, a conjugate antibody molecule consisting of a bivalent monoclonal antibody moiety having the entire heavy and light chains and specific for a surface structure of antigen presenting cells, said recombinant monoclonal antibody moiety genetically modified to contain at least one antigen moiety[, each said antigen moiety being] located [exclusively] at the C-terminal end of both said heavy and light chains of [a preselected site on] said monoclonal antibody moiety, whereby said conjugate antibody molecule is capable of delivering said antigen moiety to the antigen presenting cells of a host and capable of eliciting an immune response to said antigen moiety in the host, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.